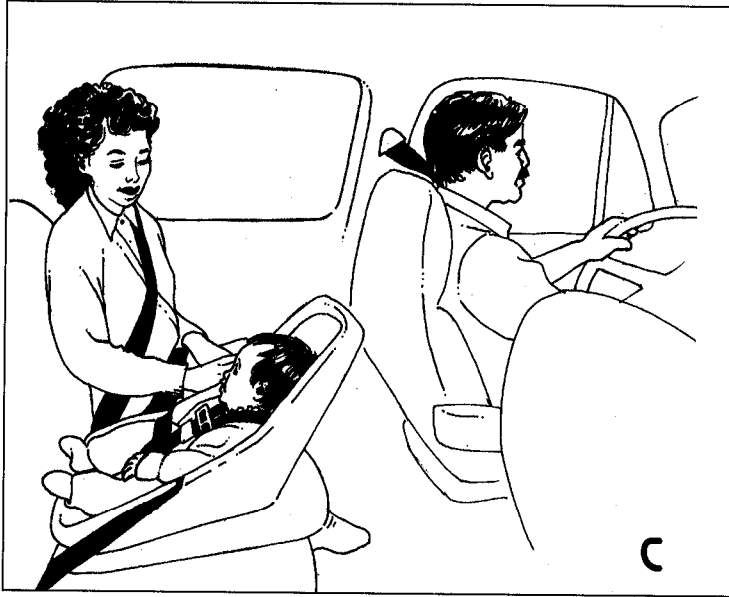


A passenger air bag can seriously harm a child riding in the front seat of the car.

Many new cars have air bags for the right front seat. Air bags work with lap/shoulder belts to protect teens and adults. To check if your vehicle has air bags, look for a warning label on the sun visor or the letters "SRS" or "SIR" embossed on the dashboard. The owner's



Everyone in this family buckles up. Mother sits in back beside her baby to watch and play with him. This car has a passenger air bag, so the baby ALWAYS rides in back.

manual will also tell you.

An inflating passenger air bag can kill a baby in a rear-facing safety seat. An air bag also can be hazardous for children age 12 and under who ride facing forward. This is especially true if they are not properly buckled up in a safety seat, booster seat, or lap and shoulder belt.

In a crash, the air bag inflates very quickly. It would hit a rear-facing safety seat hard enough to kill the baby. **Infants must ride in the back seat, facing the rear (C).** Even in the back seat, do not turn your baby to face forward until he or she is about one year of age and weighs at least 20 pounds. Look for a seat that meets the higher rear-facing weight limit for heavier babies not yet one year of age.

If there is no room in back and you have no alternative, a child over age one who is forward facing may have to ride in front. Make sure the child is correctly buckled up for his or her age and size and that the vehicle seat is moved as far back as possible. Fasten the harness snugly, and make sure a child using a lap and shoulder belt does not lean toward the dashboard. Read your vehicle owner's guide about the air bags in your car.

Parents who buckle up show their children that it is important to ride safely.

WARNING: If the front right seat has an air bag, a baby in a rear-facing safety seat must ride in the back seat. All children age 12 and under should ride in back.

Remember: One Person - One Belt

- Never hold a child on your lap because you could crush him in a collision. Even if you are using a safety belt, the child would be torn from your arms in a crash.
- Never put a belt around yourself and a child on your lap.
- Two people with one belt around them could injure each other.
- The cargo area of a station wagon, van, or pickup is a very dangerous place for anyone to ride. Anyone riding in the bed of a pickup truck, even under a canopy, could be thrown out!